Promotion of Vocational Courses in States

1413. SHRI KOTAIAH PRAGADA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what facilities are being offered for promotion of vocational courses in Government and Private Junior Colleges in different States; and

(b) whether the vocational courses in Junior Colleges are trated at par with Arts and Science courses in the matter of salary of vocational teaching staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education, vocational courses are introduced at the +2 stage either in Junior colleges, junior sections of degree colleges, intermediate colleges or higher secondary schools. Under this scheme financial and academic assistance is provided to the States/UT's for approved purposes. The pattern of financial assistance varies for different items of expenditure.

(b) Under the above Scheme it is recommended that full-time teachers of vocational courses should be qualified persons at the salaries prevalent in the School system. However, actual determination of the salary scale of vocational teaching staff is done by the respective State Governments/ UT's. The Scheme also envisages appointment of part-time teachers who may have special competence to teach vocational courses.

उत्तर प्रदेश के बांदा जिले में वन क्षेत्र का विनाश

1414. **श्री शांति त्यागी :** क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उत्तर प्रदेश के बांदा जिले में वन विभाग के कर्मचारियों की मिलीभगत से वन क्षेत्र का भारी विनाश हुआ है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह भी सच है कि वनों की कटाई से बांदा का पर्यावरणीय संतुलन बिगड़ गया है, तथा वहां गर्मियों में तापमान खतरनाक रीति से बढ़ रहा है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाये गये हैं अथवा उठाये जाने का विचार है ?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती मेनका गांधी) : (क) से (ग) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सदन के पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

Chlorine in the Drinking water supplied to Civil Areas of Delhi Cantonment

1415. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the chlorine contents present in drinking water supplied to the residents of Civil areas of Sadar Bazar and Gopi Nath Bazar in Delhi Cantonment is being checked periodically;

(b) if so, the quantity of chlorine mixed per thousand litres;

(c) whether on account of excess mixing of chlorine and bleaching powder, the residents have been made to suffer from diarrhoea, vomitting and stomachache;

(d) what action is proposed to be taken against the officials responsible therefor; and

(e) whether the Delhi Cantonment Board Health Authorities carry out surprise checks; if so, the details thereof?